



Missouri Department of Mental Health Missouri Institute of Mental Health

Substance Abuse Traffic Offenders Program (SATOP)

Brief 7a

November 1999

Recidivism of SATOP Offender/Clients

From November 1, 1996 through January 15, 1997, data were collected on a total of 1,341 persons. Of these, complete data were collected from 929 male and 230 female offender/clients at 13 SATOPs located in urban and rural areas throughout Missouri. Recidivism data were collected, 2 years post-SATOP attendance, for all offenders whose records were available through the Missouri Department of Revenue: 998 of the original sample (86% of the total); 800 males and 198 females. Brief 7a presents recidivism over a two-year period in which the SATOP offender-clients originally were surveyed.

Of the 998 offenders found in 1999, 974 had offenses prior to attending SATOP. Most of the 998 offenders [84.1% (n=839)] did not have a DWI offense following attendance at SATOP. This makes the percentage of recidivists in the approximately two years after attendance a little less than 16%. The overall average number of offenses post-SATOP attendance was 0.18. The rate differed among program components. The recidivism rate for persons who attended OEP was 13%; for WIP, 19%; and for CIP, 22%. As might be expected, the recidivism rate for offenders increased as program intensity level increased. In other words, the recidivism rate for persons who originally attended OEPs was lower than the rate for persons attending CIPs. Of the 24 persons who did not have offenses prior to SATOP, all had offenses following their attendance.

For the 159 persons who had DWIs in the two years following SATOP attendance, 88.7% (n=141) had one offense; 10.1% (n=16) had two offenses; 0.63% (n=1) had three offenses; and 0.63% (n=1) had four offenses. Paired samples t-tests overall (including all programs) compared the number of offenses before SATOP and the number of offenses after SATOP. The t-test was significant, $t(997) = 45.90$, ($p = .000$), indicating that there are appreciably fewer offenses overall following attendance at SATOP than before.

Paired samples t-tests comparing the total number of offenses two years before and after SATOP by treatment condition are also significant: OEP, $t(546) = 39.21$, significant at $p = .000$; WIP, $t(372) = 26.24$, significant at $p = .000$; CIP, $t(76) = 9.35$, significant at $p = .000$. Again, the results show that considerably fewer offenses occurred following SATOP, regardless of program component attended.

Who reoffended?

There are some differences in characteristics between those DWI offenders who re-offend and those who do not. The demographic characteristics of recidivists versus non-recidivists were as follows:



Table 1, Characteristics of Recidivists vs. Non-recidivists.

	Recidivists (n=159)	Non-recidivists (n=839)
Gender		
Male	86%	79%
Female	14%	21%
Employed fulltime	71%	76%
Marital status		
Married	20%	32%
Divorced	26%	22%
Single	47%	40%
Average age	36 years	35 years
GED, diploma or higher education attendance	84%	84%
Ethnicity		
White	86%	90%
African American	5.5%	4%
Native American	5%	3%

When compared with non-recidivists, recidivists are more likely to be male and either divorced or single. They also are slightly less likely to be employed fulltime. There is no difference in educational level and little in ethnicity or age between re-offenders and non-reoffenders.

Conclusion

The majority of persons who re-offended during the two-year period following SATOP attendance had only one offense. The recidivism rate among program components was as expected with persons attending OEP having the fewest number of re-offenses and persons attending CIP having the most. Unknown are recidivism rates for persons who did not have available driving records for the two years following SATOP attendance. Overall rates for those persons whose records were available still compare favorably with previously cited National Highway Traffic Safety Administration data.

